

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04

USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 /097 W

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R 151015Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 337

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 2621

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, CD

SUBJ: CONOCO SEARCH FOR OIL IN CHAD

REF: STAE 230966, PARA 5; STATE 243323; PARA 6

CONOCO-CHAD PRESIDENT VOEGELI ADVISED AMBASSADOR CONFIDENTIALLY
AS FOLLOWS ON OCTOBER 11:

1. WE RECENTLY RECEIVED REPORT FROM CONOCO ON ANALYSIS OF OIL
FROM MIANDOU NO. 1 WELL NEAR DOBA INDICATING IT IS NOT RPT NOT
SUITABLE FOR REFINING. HE HAS SINCE ASKED CONOCO WHETHER THIS
OIL IS SUITABLE FOR ASPHALT ROAD CONSTRUCTION, THINKING IBRD
OR OTHER INSTITUTION MIGHT FINANCE BUILDING OF ROADS IN CHAD.
HE SAID NONE OF THIS HAS BEEN IMPARTED TO GOC.

2. CONOCO NOW KNOWS THAT THEY HAVE NOT RPT NOT AS YET FOUND
COMMERCIAL QUANTITY OF OIL IN KANEM. CURRENT WELL IS AT
TWELVE THOUSAND FEET AND THEY DECIDE THIS WEEK WHETHER TO GO
TO ANOTHER THOUSAND FEET. ALTHOUGH NO COMMERCIAL QUANTITIES YET
FOUND IN KANEM, VOEGELI THINKS THERE IS CONSIDERABLE PROMISE IN
AREA AND THEREFORE HOPES THAT ANOTHER EXPLORATORY WELL IN AREA
COULD PRODUCE A "SURPRISE". RESULTS OF ANALYSIS OF PRESENT
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KANEM DRILLING, EXPECTED IN ABOUT A MONTH, WILL DETERMINE WHETHER

NEXT EXPLORATORY WELL IS IN KANEM OR IN DOBA AREA (SOUTH)

3. VOEGELI MENTIONED THAT, FROM COST POINT OF VIEW, A STRIKE IN SOUTH WOULD BE PREFERABLE FOR CONOCO -- COST OF PIPELINE TO COAST FROM SOUTH WOULD COST HALF BILLION DOLLARS VERSUS ONE BILLION FROM KANEM.

4. VOEGELI FOR FIRST TIME EXPRESSED CONCERN FROM POINT OF VIEW OF CONOCO, RE POLITICAL SITUATION IN CHAD. HE THINKS PRESENT GOVERNMENT IS UNSTABLE AND HE IS WATCHING DEVELOPMENTS CAREFULLY RE FUTURE OF CONOCO OPERATIONS HERE.

5. AMBASSADOR DID NOT RPT NOT MENTION KAMOUGUE REQUEST MENTIONED IN REFTELS THAT USG INTERVENE WITH CONOHH.GRTTLE

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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